

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
DEA HQS WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 7132

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MEXICO CITY ATTN: FOR RD EYMAN

CARACAS FOR RD BACHRACH

HQS FOR CUSACK/EOI

DEPARTMENT FOR WALENTYNOWICZ AND VANCE

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON AMERICAN PRISONERS

REF: LOU MEXICO 4974, 070010Z JUN 75

IN COMPLIANCE WITH REFERRAL IN WHICH STATE DEPARTMENT
INVESTIGATIVE TEAM HAS ASKED SAIC SEDILLO TO RESPOND
TO SOME ALLEGATIONS MADE BY DEFENDANT WIEZBOWSKI CONCERNING
HER ARREST WITH MARY ELLEN YOWELL ON MARCH 25, 1974 AT
MEXICO CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BY MFJP REGARDING COCAINE
SMUGGLING INVESTIGATION, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS
BEING SUBMITTED.

STATEMENTS MADE IN REFERRAL A,B, C AND D ARE COMPLETELY
FALSE. WHILE ASSITING MFJP IN CASE IN QUESTION DOCUMENTARY
EVIDENCE SEIZED FROM THE FEMALES POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED
THEIR SOURCE OF SUPPLY IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA AND THROUGH
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DEVELOPMENTS OF CASE WITH DOMESTIC DEA RELATED OFFICES
ADDITIONAL INTELLIGENCE WAS OBTAINED IMPLICATING OTHER

ASSOCIATES IN CONUS. FEMALES VOLUNTEERED LITTLE IF ANY INFORMATION ONLY AFTER A LETTER WAS FOUND ON WIEZBOWSKI IN WHICH SHE WROTE WHILE ON FLIGHT TO MEXICO IN WHICH SHE ADMITS SMUGGLING VENTURE AND FEAR THAT MEXICAN OFFICIALS APPREHEND HER AT MEXICO CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. TO FURTHER PROVE THAT DEFENDANTS DID NOT COOPERATE WHEN ARRESTED IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION REFLECTED THAT A THIRD AND PERHAPS MORE ASSOCIATES THAT ACCOMPANIED WIEZBOWSKI PASSED MEXICAN OFFICIALS UNDETECTED AND SMUGGLED UNKNOWN AMOUNT COCAINE TO CALIFORNIA AND TEXAS AREA. THE ONLY COOPERATION IN RELATION TO THESE DEFENDANTS WAS YOWEL'S PARENTS WHO ARE REPORTEDLY DECENT AND LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS WHO LATER CAME TO THE MEXICO CITY DEA OFFICE AND VOLUNTERED INFORMATION CONCERNING QUESTIONABLE ASSOCIATES OF THE AFOREMENTIONED FEMALES.

SAIC SEDILLO MADE NO PRIMES CONCERNING REDUCTION OF SENTENCE NOR CONTACTING MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL ON FEMALES BEHALF. THE ONLY TIME SAIC SEDILLO SPOKE IN SPANISH WAS WHILE INTERPRETING CONVERSATION BETWEEN MFJP COMMANDER AND THE FEMALES AND THIS WAS DONE ON THE MFJP'S REQUEST SINCE THEY ARE NOT BILINGUAL. SAIC SEDILLO DIDN'T MAKE THE STATEMENT TO THE TRAFFICKERS THAT THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY RIGHTS IN MEXICO BUT EXPLAINED TO THEM THE DIFFERENCE OF THE NAPOLEONIC JUDICIAL SYSTEM PRACTICED IN MEXICO AND THE COMMON LAW SYSTEM USED IN THE UNITED STATES. IN INTERPRETING FOR THE MFJP COMMANDER TO THE DEFENDANTS IT WAS BROUGHT TO THEIR ATTENTION THAT IF THEY COOPERATED IN IDENTIFYING THE PEOPLE THAT WERE USING THEM AS COURIERS, THE INVESTIGATION COULD BE DEVELOPED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT WERE ALL INTERESTED IN COMBATING THE DRUG TRAFFIC. THE COMMANDER TOLD THE FEMALES THAT IF SUCH COOPERATION WAS OFFERED HE COULD RECOMMEND TO THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, NOT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THAT THEIR CHARGE BE REDUCED FROM SMUGGLING TO POSSESSION WHICH WOULD CARRY A SHORTER SENTENCE. HOWEVER, SINCE THE DEFENDANTS DID NOT COOPERATE THE MEXICAN OFFICIALS DID NOT PURSUE THE CASE.

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